



News from the Shelby County Mayor's Office

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Inmate Funeral Visitation Leads to Disciplinary Action

Three Shelby County Corrections Center counselors and six inmates face disciplinary action after the inmates left their assigned work detail yesterday without authorization to attend a funeral visitation.

The inmates were part of a 21-member work crew assigned to build food baskets in the basement of the Cannon Center. Upstairs, a funeral visitation was being held for Cecil D'Wayne "C-Baby" Tuggle who was murdered earlier this month.

Corrections center counselors said they were not aware the inmates had left their work site until an article appeared this morning in *The Commercial Appeal* newspaper.

"Our staff was negligent. Behavior of this type won't be tolerated. They failed to properly supervise the inmates charged to their care," said James Coleman, Director of the Shelby County Corrections Center.

The counselors face a disciplinary hearing next week. The inmates involved have lost work crew privileges and will lose credits that could have led to their early release from the corrections center.

"These were minimum security inmates. However, they were to always be in the sight of the supervisors. We'll continue to ensure work crew supervisors know the policies and make sure they're followed," added Director Coleman.

(End of Release)